

Attorney Docket No.: ISPH-0612
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Serial No.: 09/982,262
Filing Date: October 18, 2001
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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

10/04
3.
Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for preserving a corneal explant ex vivo, comprising incubating a corneal explant in a solution comprising a ~~corneal~~ corneal storage medium and an antisense oligonucleotide between 8 and 50 nucleotides in length that is targeted to intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1), and wherein said antisense oligonucleotide ~~the~~ inhibits the expression of intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1); and wherein inhibition of ICAM-1 expression results in preserving a corneal explant ex vivo.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is SEQ ID NO:22.

Claim 3(original): The method of claim 1, wherein said explant is a human explant.

Claim 4(previously presented): A method of inhibiting corneal allograft rejection, comprising contacting a corneal allograft with a topical formulation comprising an antisense oligonucleotide between 8 and 50 nucleotides in length that is targeted to intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1), and